

July 15, 2011

Dr. Jennifer Buchanan Interim Dean of the Faculties 314 Westcott Building MS: 1380

Dear Jennifer,

Attached please find the comments by the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee Review Report on the Koch Foundation Memorandum of Understanding.

I am providing this report to you because some of the recommendations of the Committee reflect on improvements that can be implemented by the Dean of the Faculties. The two issues cited below are not related to the language in the MOU, but rather reflect faculty roles and responsibilities.

First, please refer to the body of page 7 of the report, which cites a conflict of interest between the faculty member in negotiating the agreement and the role of an active student in facilitating the agreement. This is a clear conflict of interest and it should have been revealed and then avoided. I would appreciate a review and/or greater clarity with regard to university policy on transparency and potential conflicts of interest.

Second, please refer to the section beginning at the bottom of page 7, which cites issues related to faculty responsibilities (recommendations 6 and 10). Recommendation 6 requests a change in departmental by-laws related to the supervision and staffing of courses and programs. Recommendation 10 requests a review, with the deans, of the principles of faculty responsibilities associated with the curriculum. Again, I would appreciate a review and/or greater clarity with regard to university policy on the issues raised by the Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee.

Thank you for your attention to these issues.

Sincerely,

Eric Barron President

CC

Provost
President, Faculty Senate
Members, Faculty Ad Hoc Committee
Dean Rasmussen